

Charles Smith to George Washington, February 23, 1758, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN February ye 23d. 1758

SIR

I have had the Happiness of Seeing the Letter You wrote, To Doctor Craig, and am Sorry to hear of your being so Much Indisposed in Your Health, and I must own that I am at Present much disturbed in my mind by Majr. Baylist who Has blasted my Character in A most Cruel manner, Without the least reason, It's true when Majr. Baylist was Last in Town there Was some disturbance between Him and Mr. Fells, Majr. Baylist and I never had any Words to gather, which I have Sufficient proff of, I have Wrote to Majr. Baylist Concerning it, and Shall Soon Convince him that I am not the Man he takes me to be—I deny the Name of a Rioter or a Coward, Which I hope to Have liberty to get Satisfaction, and you Need not to fear but I will Clear it up with Honour, and with Shame to him,

Concerning the work at Fort Loudoun has gone on tolerable Well in your Absence the third Barrack is Intirely Coverd In, and the Last one now a framing in Order to raise, the Parapet on the Last Curtain is up, the Last Bastion Is Layd Over with logs and two of the amburiers done and now is about the other four, we have done all the joyners Work in the Second Barrack, We are in Great want of a Barrel of Double tens for the last Barrack we not having One, Our Stone Masons has been Sick, Ever Since you have been Away, and our Stone Work is much Behind hand, The well has been allmost full of Water But now

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is Cleared and they are at Work in it AGain And is near Ninety foot deep, I Cant Say that there is any Likelyhood of Any Spring, We are almost out of Iron and plank, and am Afraid I shall find it Very difficult to be Supply'd without a Small quantity of money to pay them off the old arrears I have advanced all the money I Can possibly Spare,

The Black Smiths belonging to the publick work has behav'd Extreemly well, I Should Send you the particulars of The Work they have done but being in Haste and my Books not being Settled,

Sr. I am your most Humbe. Servt. CHS. SMITH